COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

Legislative Session of Vrischigam 1103.

Tuesday, *the* *28th of Vrischigam 1103.* — *13th of December 1927.*

The Legislative Council assembled for the third meeting of the legislative session of Vrischigam 1103 in the Town Hall, Ernakulam, at 11-30 a. m. when the *ex-officio* President of the Council was in the chair. The following members were absent:— Messrs. Lonappan Chakkola, A. Eachara Menon, C. L. George, Poulo Mampilli, P. Munda Vydian, S. F. Nunez, C. A. Ouseph, A. Sankara Puduval, A. K. Thoma and C. Barton Wright.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

List of persons competent to write remarks in Visitors' Books.

46. Dr. A. G. Menon.—In view of the answer given to question 137 (a) dated 18th Karkadagam 1102, will the Government be pleased to state whether it contemplates to publish a list of persons who are 'competent' to write remarks in the Visitors' Books kept in the institutions under the Government management ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

Grant of study leave to the Additional Civil Surgeon.

47. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Dr. T. Verghese, the additional Civil Surgeon, who has been granted special study leave for ten months to proceed to England for higher studies in medicine and surgery, is the son of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer;

(b) whether he is granted any allowance by the Government during the period of his stay in England; and if so the amount so granted and the conditions under which it is granted ;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained the willingness or otherwise of any other medical subordinate of more or

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

equal service in the State to proceed to England for higher studies ;

(d) whether there were any other applicants to proceed for higher studies; and if so the way their applications were disposed ;

(e) that having regard to the fact that there are already in the service England returned medical men, will the Government be pleased to state the special reasons that prompted the Government to incur additional expenditure for swelling the number of medical men with English qualifications in the service ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. Full pay during privilege leave (2 months) and half pay during study leave (10 months). To pursue higher studies in Europe and on return to serve the State in the Medical Department for 5 years.

(c) No.

(d) There is one more application pending before the Government.

(e) Improvement of knowledge by proceeding to and studying at seats of learning in Europe increases the efficiency of medical men and whenever possible the Government are pleased to encourage such endeavours on the part of its servants.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In the answer it is only said that he is to serve for 5 years. Is no pay fixed for those 5 years?

President.—Not decided as yet about his permanent pay. There are already officers of the Government in that department drawing salary at a particular rate. In the absence of any special contract, that rate will continue.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Government order is ' in any post to which he may be appointed.'

President.—That post carries a certain pay and to that pay he will be entitled. I think there is no contract as regards his pay.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is there any idea of entertaining a new hand at present ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Not at present.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Am I to understand, that this order insures his appointment for 5 years ?

President.—He is bound to serve the Government for 5 years. We keep him on till the age-limit.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—On the other hand, he insures that he will serve the State for 5 years.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—Since there is a contract he is bound to serve the State. He gets a concession from the Government.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are there in the State service men with similar qualifications and larger service than the present incumbent ?

President.—Similar or more as this officer, Dr. T. Verghese ?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Among Cochinites ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. Not exactly as regards qualification. Qualification is a very wide term.

President.—Here qualification means such qualifications as will enable one to hold the post of Civil Surgeon.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There are.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is Dr. T. Verghese a Cochinite?

Diwan Bahadur Dr.V. Verghese.—He is not a Cochinite.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In the answer to sub-division (d) it is stated that there is one more application pending before the Government. Which application came first ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There are questions subsequently coming where these questions are answered.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Can I ask supplementary questions on questions coming after this ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is he given the power to ask supplementary questions on questions standing in the name of other Members after these questions are answered?

President.—No. So we may better anticipate these answers and we may answer them now.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Which application came first ?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Dr. A. R. Puduval's application came first.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know why this preferential treatment was given to the second petition ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The written application of Dr. A. R. Puduval is earlier than the application of Dr. T. Verghese. But the application for leave of Dr. T. Verghese was several months previous to that, and arrangements had already been made to grant him the leave.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is any register kept to note verbal applications also ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

48. **Dr. A. R. Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(a) how many members of the Government Medical staff have applied for study leave during 1101, 1102 and 1103 up-to-date ;

(b) how many applications were accepted and how many rejected ;

(c) will the Government kindly mention the names of the applicants with their official designation and their period of service, stating the reasons for acceptance or refusal of their application ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) None in 1101 or 1102, two in 1103 up-to-date.

(b) None were rejected. One applicant was granted leave. The application of the other is pending before the Government.

(c) Dr. T. Verghese, Additional Civil Surgeon, 2 years and 7 months.

Dr. A. R. Puduval, Civil Surgeon, 2nd grade, 5 years and 6 months.

Vide (b) above and answer to question No. 47 (e) for answer to the latter part of the question.

49. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. the dates on which Dr. A. R. Puduval and Dr. T. Verghese applied for leave for higher studies; copies of the applications may be placed on the table ;

2. the dates or hours on which these applications were initialled by the Head clerk or Manager ;

3. the dates on which the applications were registered ;

4. whether there was any delay in registering Dr. Puduval's application; if so, why ;

5. the dates on which the two applications left the office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer ;

6. what was the recommendation of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer on each of these applications ;

7. what were the orders of the Government on each of these applications ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) Copies of the applications are appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*) Dr. T. Verghese had personally applied for leave in Edavam last in consequence of which an Assistant Surgeon was being trained in the Ophthalmic Hospital to act during his absence.

2. Papers received are not usually initialled ; but are sealed at once with the office seal.

3. The application of Dr. T. Verghese was registered on 8th October 1927 ; that of Dr. Puduval on 3rd October 1927.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

4. No.

5. The application of Dr. T. Verghese was despatched on 8th October 1927; that of Dr. Puduval on 12th October 1927.

6. Copies of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's reports are appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

7. Copies are appended. (*Vide Appendix III*).

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—To whom was this oral application made?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—To the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was it a failure of memory to refer to that in the petition put in by Dr. T. Verghese and which is printed in the appendix, and in the recommendation to the Government by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I do not understand the Member.

President.—That is, in the application of Dr. T. Verghese, there is no reference to that oral application, and, on the recommendation made by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to the Government, there is no reference made to this oral application. The question asked is was it due to any failure of memory and all that on the part of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

Diwan Bahadur Dr.V.Verghese.—No failure of memory. The answer given to the first part of this question shows there is no failure of memory on the part of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. The answer given is " Dr. T. Verghese had personally applied for leave in Edavam last in consequence of which an Asst. Surgeon was being trained in the Ophthalmic Hospital to act during his absence."

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—So, when this recommendation was being made, this matter was in the mind of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and am I to understand that ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Why is it not referred to in the recommendation ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I did not consider it necessary.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—It is not also the usual practice.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there any record kept or any entry made for these oral applications?

President.—No, and further this answer was given with reference to Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar's question.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The answer to sub-division (4) of my question whether there was any delay in registering Dr. Puduval's application is 'no'. That application is dated 29th September 1927. In the answer it is stated that it was forwarded on the 12th October, and that it was registered only on the 3rd October. On the other hand, we find the other application is dated 7th October, it is received and registered on 8th October, and forwarded to Government on 8th October, the same day. I ask why there was the delay in forwarding Dr. Puduval's application to Government.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Dr. Puduval's application is appended in the answer. From it, it will be seen that it was an indefinite application which I could not forward to the Government without getting definite data. In the application there was nothing as regards the date from which he wanted leave, conditions under which the leave was to be granted, the kind of financial facilities to be given, and further I had to consider the arrangements to be made during his absence. In the other application everything was definite and further arrangements during his absence had already been made, and so there was no difficulty at all in forwarding the same.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was Dr. Puduval asked to supply particulars?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—When was that supplied?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I received those particulars only to-day.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was the recommendation then made without getting the particulars? The recommendation was forwarded dated 'nil'. Before the receipt of the particulars the recommendation had already been made, in spite of the fact that the paper was kept pending to get the particulars. Is that so?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Hon'ble Member is suppressing facts. Further, I wanted time to consider what arrangements to make when his application was sent up to the Government.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The order of the Government is dated 19th October on Dr. Puduval's application and the other is dated 26th October. Did the Government consider whether Dr. Puduval will be selected for training before Dr. T. Verghese was selected?

President.—When were these applications received?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Dr. Puduval's application with the Chief Medical Officer's endorsement, on the 13th October if I remember correctly, and Dr. Verghese's application with the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's endorsement through the Comptroller of Accounts, on the 9th October. Further, Dr. Puduval's application was against the provisions of *the C.S R.* as it was only four months, since he returned from privilege leave. The Chief Medical Officer's recommendations regarding Dr. Verghese was approved by the Government.

President.—What became of Dr. Puduval's application?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—He has not till now furnished the information required by the Government.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The same date on which it came, it was despatched.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—So there was no delay in forwarding Dr. Puduval's application?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No. There was no delay.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The petition was dated 29th September and it was delayed till 12th October.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It was left to me to decide when to forward the application.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—But Dr. T. Verghese's application was forwarded the next day.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I have sufficiently explained everything in connection with the two applications.

President.—He has already given the reasons.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The answer to sub-division (4) is 'no delay'. The application was dated 29th September and was registered on the 3rd October. Was there no delay in registering?

President.—There was no delay.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—But we find these dates different in Dr. Puduval's case.

President.—There was no delay in registering and in despatching Dr. Puduval's application.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was Dr. Puduval's application received on the 29th September or only on the day on which it was registered?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It was received in the office on the 29th September.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was Dr. Puduval in the General Hospital attending to his work during this period?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

50. Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state who is to be in charge of the X-ray and Eye Departments during the absence of Dr. T. Verghese; is there any

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

other Specialist in Government Service who is competent to look after this work?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—T. Koshy Mathew will be in charge of the X-ray work. He has undergone a course of practical X-ray training in Madras and has been assisting the Radiologist in X-ray work during the last year and a half and is competent to carry on the X-ray work of the General Hospital.

K. Achyuta Marar, who has been attached to the Ophthalmic Hospital during the last four and a half months, will be in charge. The important operative work will be conducted by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

There are no other Specialists in Government Service more competent to look after these works.

51. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether in granting study leave to the Additional Civil Surgeon Dr. T. Verghese for higher Medical and Surgical studies, the two Civil Surgeons and Doctors Joseph, Babu Rao and Miss D'Souza, who are senior to the Additional Civil Surgeon in service, were consulted about their willingness to proceed to Europe for higher studies;

(b) were there any previous applications by any officers of the Medical Department for the same purpose; and if so, why preference was given to Dr. T. Verghese;

(c) will the Government be pleased to state, what arrangement is proposed to be made for X-ray treatment during Dr. T. Verghese's absence on study leave?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Vide answer to question No. 50.

Medical officers and holidays.

52. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) if Government is aware of a Circular (or official memorandum) recently issued by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, to the effect that officers in the Medical Department could not be considered to be entitled to public holidays as of right, and that such holidays could be availed of only with the previous permission of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and only when other arrangements could be made;

(b) will the Government be pleased to lay a true copy of the said paper on the table;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 49).

From (1)

Capt. A. R. Puduval,
Civil Surgeon,
Ernakulam.

To

The Secretary to the Diwan,
Ernakulam.

Through

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer,
Ernakulam.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit that as it is now seven years since I returned from England during which period Medicine and Surgery have made considerable progress in the West, I have a great desire, in the interests of greater efficiency and utility, to equip myself with up-to-date knowledge in the subject of my profession.

I request that the Government may be pleased to grant me the facilities required for undergoing a course of advanced studies in Medicine and Surgery in Europe covering a period of 6 to 8 months.

In this connection I may bring to the notice of the Government that I am entitled at present to about 3 months' privilege leave.

I have the honour to request that I may be granted study leave for the rest of the period, and that the Government be so good as to extend to me adequate financial help for completing the course.

Ernakulam,
29—9—1927.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd). A. R. PUDUVAL,
Civil Surgeon.

(2)

To

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer,
Ernakulam.

Sir,

As I have a desire to proceed to Europe for higher studies in Ophthamology and general surgery, I request you to be kind enough to grant me leave for a year from the middle of November 1927. I am entitled to two months' privilege leave. I may be allowed to bring to your notice that officers working in the X-ray Department, Madras, are given, two months' privilege leave every year on account of risk to their health and lives entailed thereby. I request that the Government may be pleased to consider this, so that I also may be granted as much privilege leave as the Government may think fit and for the rest of the period I may be given study leave on half pay.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
(Sd.)
T. VERGHESE
Additional Civil Surgeon

Ernakulam,
7th October 1927.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 49.)

Letter dated 8th October 1927, C. No. 635/1103, from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

(1)

I have the honour to forward herewith application from Additional Civil Surgeon Dr. T. Verghese for one year's leave (two months' privilege leave and 10 months' study leave combined) from 15th November 1927 or date of avail. I recommend that the same may be granted and that half pay be given during study leave on the same terms as it was given to Dr. T. Bhaskara Menon.

As regards the special concession of privilege leave on account of risk by X-ray work, I shall ascertain what orders exist on the subject in Madras and make a separate report on the matter in due course.

Additional Assistant Surgeon K. Achyuta Marar will be in charge of the Ophthalmic Hospital and Sub-Assistant Surgeon T. Koshy Mathew, who has undergone a course of practical X-ray work in Madras and has been assisting in the X-ray Department here, will be in charge of that work.

(2)

Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's endorsement on C. No. 599 of 1103 dated nil on Dr. A. R. Puduval's application.

1. This application is against the provision of C. S. R. (Note to Article 124) as it is only four months since he returned from privilege leave.

2. Dr. Thariyan Verghese has already been recommended for a year's study leave and it is inconvenient to recommend leave for Dr. Puduval also, as a suitable hand will have to be entertained to carry on the work during his absence.

3. I would therefore recommend that he be asked to renew his application at the beginning of next year.

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 49.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN.

Local and Miscellaneous Department.

(Medical and Sanitation.)

READ again Notification, dated 26th October 1927, granting privilege leave for 2 months and special study leave for 10 months in continuation to Dr. T. Verghese, Additional Civil Surgeon, General Hospital.

(2) C. No. 635/1103, dated 8th October 1927, from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer forwarded by the Comptroller of Accounts with his endorsement on C. No. 1057/1103, dated 13th October 1927.

(5) Sarvadhikariakar's communication A. No. 288/1103, dated 21st October 1927.

Order Dis. No. 81/R/03, dated 26th October 1927.

Government are pleased to grant Dr. T. Verghese, as a special case, half-his pay as allowance during the period of his study leave provided that he undertakes to serve the Government after his return for a period of five years in any post to which he may be appointed.

(True extract)

(Sd.) Secretary to the Diwan.

To

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.
,, Comptroller of Accounts.
,, Press Bureau.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN.

Local and Miscellaneous Department.

(*Medical and Sanitation.*)

READ endorsement on C. No. 599/1103, dated nil, from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer forwarding an application from the Civil Surgeon, Ernakulam.

Order Dis. No. 519/D/03, dated 19th October 1927.

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's recommendation is accepted.

(True extract)

(Sd.) Secretary to the Diwan.

To

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer,

APPENDIX IV.

(*Vide Answer to Question No. 52.*)

R. O. C. No. 956/1103.

Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, Ernakulam,
Dated 27—10—1927.

CIRCULAR MEMO.

Instances are brought to the notice of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that medical officers do often apply for permission to avail themselves of the public holidays.

The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer wishes to make it clearly understood that the duties of the Medical Department are such that the so-called public holidays are working days for medical men and as such no medical officer could claim such holidays as a matter of right, unless, under special circumstances, when the work could be arranged to be conducted by other medical officers.

(Sd.) Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

1—11—1927.

To

All Medical Officers.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly